

OPHTHALMIC PHOTOGRAPHER SERIES

Code No.	Class Title	Occ. Area	Work Area	Prob. Period	Effective Date
3041	Ophthalmic Photographer I	02	445	6 mo.	12/24/92
3042	Ophthalmic Photographer II	02	445	6 mo.	12/24/92
3043	Ophthalmic Photographer III	02	445	6 mo.	12/24/92
3044	Principal Ophthalmic Photographer	02	445	6 mo.	12/24/92

Promotional Line: 325

Series Narrative

Employees in this series take medical photographs of patients with eye diseases or disorders using diagnostic and documentary techniques in order to (1) assist ophthalmologists in making decisions on patient care and treatment and in documenting surgical procedures, (2) provide audio-visual support for medical education programs, and (3) provide photographs for publications, professional journals, and public relations. Employees at the upper levels of the series are also involved in the management of the ophthalmic photographic laboratory and/or the development and evaluation of new ophthalmic photography procedures.

DESCRIPTIONS OF LEVELS OF WORK

Level I: Ophthalmic Photographer I **3041**

Employees at this level perform routine ophthalmic photography duties, including darkroom procedures and still photographs of assigned studies. They work under direct supervision of higher level personnel.

A Ophthalmic Photographer I typically--

1. assists more experienced ophthalmic photographers in complex assignments requiring advanced photographic and lighting techniques (such as eye surgery photography)
2. using a 35mm camera, takes still external photographs of patients with eye lid disorders, eye motility problems, and craniofacial anomalies and documents injuries to the face and eye as a result of trauma
3. performs routine photographic equipment maintenance and makes minor adjustment and repairs
4. performs darkroom work, including mixing of chemical reagents for developing film, slides, and enlargements
5. cuts, edits, and tapes dye studies used to diagnose eye disease
6. sets up and, as needed, runs audio-visual equipment, including slide projectors, VCRs, movie projectors, and tape recorders
7. operates special purpose cameras (such as a copy cameras and slide duplicators used for copying books) and prepares artwork on copy stand
8. assists with fundus (retinal) photography in a clinical environment

9. assists with retinal fluorescein angiography (use of dye to differentiate retinal disease and findings) and learns procedures
10. performs related duties as assigned

Level II: Ophthalmic Photographer II**3042**

Employees at this level perform moderately complex camera work, including lighting and other specialized ophthalmic photographic procedures involving pathological specimens and other ophthalmic subjects (such as gonioscopy [the placing of a Goldmann lens on the patient's anesthetized eye] to see behind the iris of the eye.) They work under general supervision from a designated supervisor.

An Ophthalmic Photographer II typically--

1. using a fundus camera, takes pictures of a broad spectrum of retinal diseases, identifying hereditary, congenital, or acquired findings
2. using a slit-lamp camera (a camera used to take magnified pictures of the anterior segment of the eye), documents corneal diseases (such as cataracts, iris anomalies, and anterior segment diseases)
3. acting on a physician's order, performs fluorescein angiography to determine extent and treatability of retinal diseases
4. acting on a physician's order, performs specular microscopy (a type of microscope using specular illumination to photograph corneal endothelial cells) on patients being considered for transplant surgery, as well as to determine viability of patient's corneal endothelium for implant surgery
5. takes still photography of pathological specimens and other subjects requiring more complex lighting techniques and macrophotography
6. edits and sorts motion picture film and videotape
7. performs related duties as assigned

Level III: Ophthalmic Photographer III**3043**

Employees at this level perform a wide variety of highly complex ophthalmic photography techniques on patients, including documentation of entire surgical procedures using various formats and equipment. They work under administrative direction of a designated supervisor.

An Ophthalmic Photographer III typically--

1. performs diagnostic and documentary ophthalmic photography, including complex retinal disease, involving the far periphery of the retina and equator
2. performs diagnostic and documentary ophthalmic photography on infants and children in the operating room and in various clinical settings
3. using a portable fundus camera or a slit-lamp camera in a operating room, takes photographs of anesthetized patients with eye diseases

4. prepares material to be used in publications and/or for teaching
5. trains lower level ophthalmic photographers in more advanced ophthalmic photography techniques
6. maintains film and drug inventory for the section, ordering supplies as needed
7. maintains a safe laboratory environment, including orderliness and aseptic conditions
8. adapts equipment for specialized instrumentation and laboratory experiments
9. establishes and maintains the departmental teaching file for use by medical students, staff, and faculty
10. performs more complex maintenance and repairs on photographic and surgical equipment; determines if equipment is to be sent for dealer services
11. recognizes untoward and allergic side affects of drugs used in testing of patients and takes appropriate action
12. performs related duties as assigned

Level IV: Principal Ophthalmic Photographer**3044**

Employees at this level perform the most complex ophthalmic photography assignments. In addition, they are responsible for planning, organizing, implementing, directing, and controlling the activities of an ophthalmic photography laboratory. They also develop new photography protocol and evaluate suggested new photographic procedures. They work under administrative direction of designated administrators.

A Principal Ophthalmic Photographer typically--

1. provides assistance in solving photographic problems encountered by other photographers and departmental staff
2. establishes priorities for the section, including assigning work duties
3. participates in preparation and presentation of specialized materials for conferences and training programs
4. develops, conducts, and participates in formal supervisory in-service training programs for departmental personnel
5. interviews and participates in personnel actions, including hiring, promotions, and discipline; evaluates technical competence of subordinates
6. provides technical expertise to the section head regarding fiscal management, including operating budgets, contractual services, and upgrading of facilities; reviews bid specifications for technical items; and prepares statistical reports of activities and expenditures
7. evaluates and negotiates purchases, modifications, and reconstruction of equipment with vendors

8. develops and conducts in-service training seminars for the application of ophthalmic photography, including procurement of appropriate camera equipment for ophthalmic practice for ophthalmic residents
9. is responsible for total quality assurance for the section
10. performs related duties as assigned

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO:

Level I: Ophthalmic Photographer I **3041**

CREDENTIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY PLACEMENT OFFICER

1. high school graduation or equivalent
2. Any one or any combination of the following types of preparation:
 - (a) experience as a photographic laboratory technician in an ophthalmic photographic laboratory
 - (b) experience as a photographic laboratory technician in other types of biomedical photographic laboratories than the one listed in "a"
 - (c) experience as a photographic laboratory technician in other types of scientific photographic laboratories than the ones listed in "a" and "b"
 - (d) experience as a photographic laboratory technician in other types of photographic laboratories than those listed in "a", "b", and "c"
 - (e) experience as a biomedical photographer
 - (f) experience as a scientific photographer in other fields than the one listed in "e"
 - (g) experience as a photographer in other fields than the ones listed in "e" and "f"
 - (h) credit for college course work in biomedical photography
 - (i) credit for college course work in other fields of scientific photography than the one listed in "h"
 - (j) credit for college course work in other fields of photography than those listed in "h" and "i"

that totals 1.0 unit according to the following conversion rates:

12 months of "a" = 1.0 unit

18 months of "b" = 1.0 unit

24 months of "c" = 1.0 unit

36 months of "d" = 1.0 unit

12 months of "e" = 1.0 unit

18 months of "f" = 1.0 unit

24 months of "g" = 1.0 unit

12 semester hours of "h" = 1.0 unit

18 semester hours of "i" = 1.0 unit

24 semester hours of "j" = 1.0 unit

Amounts of experience or training less than those listed above should be converted to decimal equivalents of 1.0 unit and added together when computing combinations of the different types of preparation.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES NEEDED TO UNDERTAKE JOB

1. fundamental knowledge of photographic principles
2. knowledge of darkroom procedures, including chemical formulas
3. knowledge of standard photographic equipment, methods, and materials
4. knowledge of audio-visual equipment
5. knowledge of mathematics as required by photography
6. skill in the use of standard photographic equipment
7. ability to photograph scientific subjects, including patients and specimens
8. ability to speak, read, and write English well
9. ability to process black and white film
10. ability to learn to use a fundus camera
11. ability to learn anterior and posterior segment anatomy as it pertains to the eye
12. ability to learn the use of a photo slit-lamp camera
13. ability to learn specular microscopy
14. ability to learn fluorescein angiography

Level II: Ophthalmic Photographer II**3042**

CREDENTIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY PLACEMENT OFFICER

1. possession of experience/training requirements listed for the Ophthalmic Photographer I
2. one year of work experience comparable to an Ophthalmic Photographer I

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES NEEDED TO UNDERTAKE JOB

1. knowledge of fundus photography
2. knowledge of slit-lamp biophotography
3. knowledge of mechanics of fluorescein angiography
4. knowledge of specular microscopy
5. knowledge of anterior and posterior segment anatomy
6. knowledge of disease processes of the eye, recognizing subtle angiographic findings
7. skill in the use of standard photographic equipment
8. ability to differentiate pooling, leaking, and staining in retinal layers
9. ability to work effectively with patients and fellow workers
10. ability to troubleshoot, repair, and maintain standard photographic equipment

Level III: Ophthalmic Photographer III**3043**

CREDENTIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY PLACEMENT OFFICER

1. possession of experience/training requirements listed for the Ophthalmic Photographer II
2. two years of work experience comparable to the Ophthalmic Photographer II

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES NEEDED TO UNDERTAKE JOB

1. thorough knowledge of ophthalmic photography
2. knowledge of medical terminology as it relates to diseases of the eye and ophthalmology
3. thorough knowledge of preventive maintenance and repairs of highly complex cameras and equipment
4. skill in the use of complex ophthalmic photographic equipment
5. ability to work with a diverse group of patients under adverse conditions or circumstances

6. ability to interpret written physicians' orders
7. ability to teach photography to lower level staff
8. ability to learn managerial duties

Level IV: Principal Ophthalmic Photographer**3044****CREDENTIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY PLACEMENT OFFICER**

1. possession of experience/training requirements listed for the Ophthalmic Photographer III
2. three years of work experience comparable to an Ophthalmic Photographer III

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES NEEDED TO UNDERTAKE JOB

1. extensive knowledge of ophthalmic photography
2. knowledge of ophthalmic instrumentation
3. knowledge of a diverse group of ophthalmic diseases
4. skill in taking highly complex photographs of a variety of subjects
5. skill in the use of dedicated ophthalmic cameras
6. ability to develop and monitor ophthalmic photographic budgets
7. ability to recognize allergic reactions and act appropriately
8. ability to determine staffing needs
9. leadership ability
10. managerial ability

Ophthalmic Photographer I
Ophthalmic Photographer II
Ophthalmic Photographer III
Principal Ophthalmic Photographer

(NEW)
(NEW)
(NEW)
(NEW)